

Page 50, line 4, please delete "immuune" and insert -immune—in place thereof.

In the Claims

- Sub E1
1. (amended) [A vaccine] An immunogenic composition for alleviating or preventing symptoms of autoimmune disorders induced by infection with Epstein-Barr virus comprising a modified Epstein-Barr virus or a modified component thereof, wherein one or more structures of the Epstein-Barr virus are removed or altered to decrease the potential that the vaccine will induce an autoimmune disorder, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for administration of the virus or viral component in an amount and mode of administration effective to alleviate or prevent symptoms associated with the autoimmune disorders.
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2. (amended) The [vaccine] composition of claim 1 [wherein one or more structures of the Epstein-Barr virus are removed or altered to decrease the potential that the vaccine will induce an autoimmune disorder] comprising modified Epstein-Barr virus components.
3. (amended) The [vaccine] composition of claim 1 wherein the component of Epstein-Barr virus is selected from the group consisting of peptides or proteins expressed from recombinant DNA or RNA with sequence identity to Epstein-Barr virus, viral DNA or RNA, and carbohydrate components of the Epstein-Barr virus.
- Sub E2
4. (twice amended) The [vaccine] composition of claim 1 wherein the Epstein-Barr virus comprises the nuclear antigen 1 protein not including a peptide sequence selected from the group consisting of PPPGRRP, GRGRGRGG and RGRGREK.
5. (amended) The [vaccine] composition of claim 1 in a pharmaceutical carrier for

D'cont
administration by injection.

sub E3
11. (amended) A method for preventing or alleviating autoimmune disorders induced by infection with Epstein-Barr virus comprising

[vaccinating or] administering to a individual at risk of developing, or who has been identified as having symptoms associated with, an autoimmune disorder induced by infection with Epstein-Barr virus,

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a composition comprising a killed or attenuated Epstein-Barr virus or a component thereof, or modifications thereof wherein one or more structures of the Epstein-Barr virus are removed or altered to decrease the potential that the vaccine will induce an autoimmune disorder,
in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for administration of the virus or viral component in an amount and mode of administration effective to alleviate or prevent the autoimmune disorders.

12. (amended) The method of claim 11 wherein ~~one or more structures of the Epstein-Barr virus are removed or altered to decrease the potential that the vaccine will induce an autoimmune disorder~~ the composition comprises modified Epstein-Barr virus components.

Remarks

The Interview

Applicants and the undersigned greatly appreciate the courtesy extended by the Examiner and her supervisor, Marian Knode, on October 20, 1998, to discuss this application and the rejections in the Office Action.